CINCINNATI

The City of Personality

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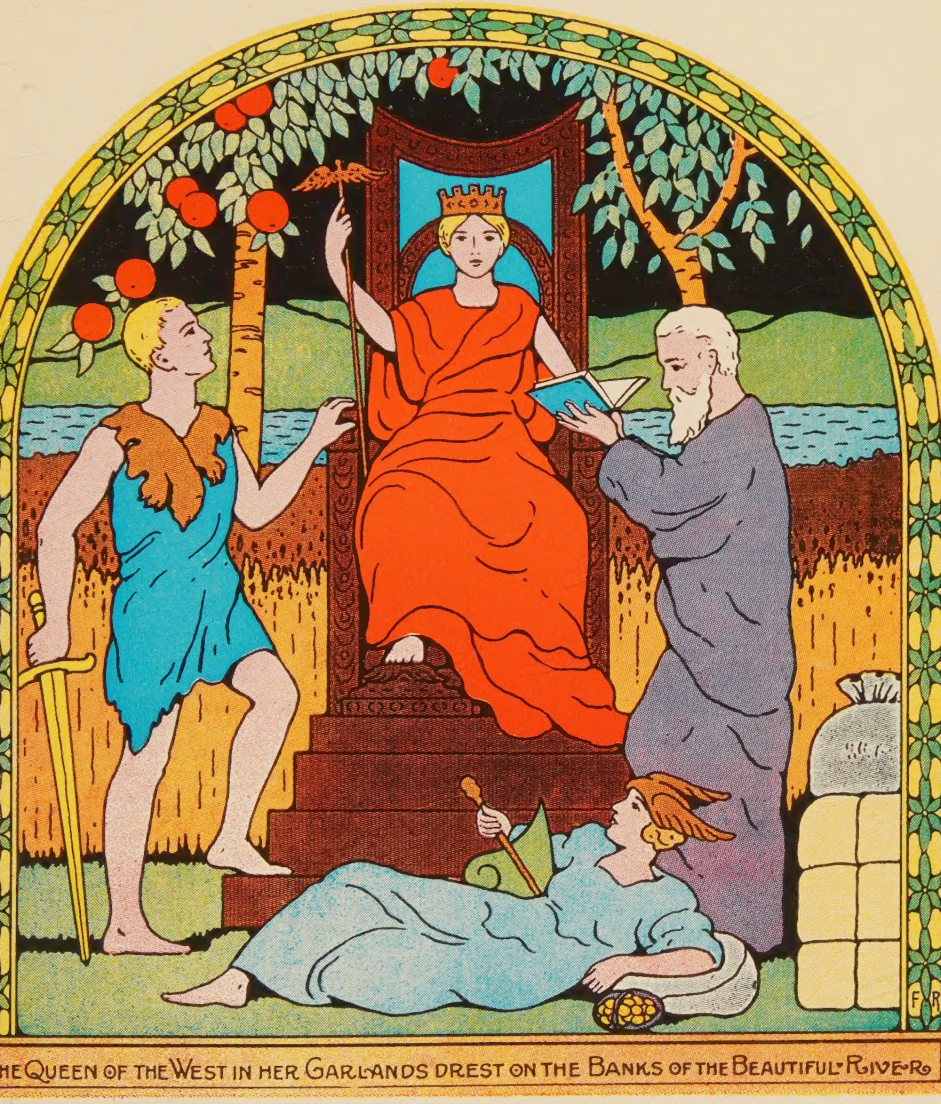
Thomas B. Frank

THE TITLE PAGE DESIGN

THE subject of the design on the Title Page is taken from a beautifully stained art-glass window in the east corridor of the City Building, Eighth, Ninth, Plum and Central Avenue. The Queen of the West, surrounded by symbolical figures of Patriotism, Commercialism and Education, represents Cincinnati giving to the world her share of the fruits of this municipality.



CINCINNATI
THE CITY OF PERSONALITY

By

THOMAS B. FRANK

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FOREWORD

CINCINNATI, the Queen City of the West, was founded in 1788, was incorporated a village in 1802 and became a city in 1819. It was built in a beautiful valley surrounded by seven picturesque hills and bordering upon the Ohio River. From the very beginning it has thus been favored with a natural beauty that is incomparable.

Webster defines "personality" as "that which distinguishes or characterizes." Cincinnati is most assuredly endowed with many characteristics which distinguish her from other cities. Hence a personality that is at once distinct and lovable.

A large number of the early families who took up their homes in this city, came here from Germany and other Central European points and were themselves inheritors of generations of the old European culture. The result has been the establishment in Cincinnati of many manifestations of the outward expression of that inborn culture, refinement and love of beauty. Beautiful homes and gardens, an unusual appreciation of music and the arts, and the schools and industries are here founded upon the cultural and artistic instincts of the people. This beauty has also

found expression in Cincinnati as an essential factor in the upbuilding of civic character. In this Cincinnati is foremost and outstanding.

The purpose of this book is, not so much to set forth an array of the conventional views of the city, but more to show some of the beauty spots in and about the city, that indicate the outward expression of the culture of her people, and some of those which contribute toward the creation of that charming personality for which Cincinnati is famed. Neither has it been attempted to give a comprehensive cross-section of the city as a whole, but rather to concentrate upon a few of the many features, beautiful, unique and unusual, which in no small measure make Cincinnati, "The City of Personality."

Thomas B. Frank.

October 1, 1930.

CINCINNATI
THE CITY OF PERSONALITY

CINCINNATI FROM THE KENTUCKY SHORE

THIS view of Cincinnati shows to advantage the business section of the city. From the paved municipal landing to the towering business buildings, the scene is imposing and reflects the industrial progress of the Queen City.

The scene takes on added beauty when it is viewed thru the trees that line the Kentucky shore below the Broadway Bridge.

The historic Spencer House, the five story building at the head of the landing, stands a mute witness of the glory and the glamour of the old river days.

THE RIVER FROM THE SHELTER HOUSE, ALMS PARK

THE varying view of the river, the city, the hills of Kentucky, the municipal airport, and the country to the East, is seen to unusual advantage from the heights of Alms Park.

The evening sunset particularly seems more vivid and glorious when viewed from this natural observation point.

The evening lights along the river, the lights of the city beyond, and the lights of the river steamers as they pass, combine to make a scene long to be remembered.

STATUE OF JAMES A. GARFIELD, GARFIELD PLACE

BEAUTIFULLY situated at the Race Street intersection of the square named for him is this splendid statue of the twentieth president of our country, James A. Garfield, soldier and statesman.

The statue seems to fit into the picture admirably, in spite of the fact that its removal from the center of Race Street to its present location, several years ago, was strongly opposed.

The widening of the two squares of Eighth Street from Vine Street to Elm Street, which form Garfield Place, is a shady and green spot in the heart of the city, which offers rest and comfort on hot summer days. Many old landmarks face the park, as well as many new and imposing business structures.

MARIEMONT MEMORIAL CHURCH

ERECTED and presented to the people of Mariemont by Mrs. Mary M. Emery, under the painstaking supervision of her personal representative Mr. Charles J. Livingood, as a memorial to the pioneers who settled this part of Ohio. It is constructed mostly of local materials; the oak beams from old buildings; the stone from a nearby quarry. The stone tile on the roof were taken from the Calcot tithe-barn, at Kingswood Abbey near Tetbury, which was built in the year 1300, by the Cistercian Monks, and stood the oldest barn in England until 1926, when it fell in and the roof brought to Mariemont.

In design it follows the lines of Stoke Pogis, even to the "fleche" or lead-covered spire. It will be remembered that Gray wrote his "Elegy" in the church-yard of Stoke Pogis.

MT. ADAMS FROM THE DECK OF A RIVER STEAMER

CROWNED with its Shrine, a Monastery and a world famed pottery, Mt. Adams is at once unique and unusual and particularly so when viewed from the river. Its slopes are dotted with buildings and homes that seem perched precariously on the very edges of the grades. Its streets wind in and out, up and down the sides of the hill.

This prominence was named for John Quincy Adams, who, on November 9, 1843, laid the cornerstone of the Cincinnati Observatory which originally occupied the crown of this hill. Rising some five hundred feet above the low water of the Ohio River, the hill commands a view in all directions of wonderful variety.

MT. ADAMS FROM EDEN PARK

VIEWED from the landside, Mt. Adams presents a picture that is attractively enhanced by the branches of the trees, which impart a sort of stained-glass window effect to the scene.

The atmosphere of this section is most medieval in its quaintness, and is probably the only spot in America that so closely resembles old Europe, so loved by travelers from the far corners of the globe.

DUCK CREEK ROAD

THIS beauty spot on Duck Creek Road just west of Marburg Avenue in Oakley, is no doubt one of the most attractive to be found in the unimproved sections of the city.

The old trees continue to grow more stately as if to emphasize the natural beauty of the country side.

McMICKEN HALL, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

THE central building of the University of Cincinnati group was built in 1895 and named for Charles McMicken who contributed many thousands of dollars towards the founding of the University. It forms a pleasing entrance to the grounds of Cincinnati's municipally owned University.

Since its foundation, countless thousands of the citizens of the community have climbed its steps in search of a higher and broader education.

Only the reputation of the University itself, possibly eclipses the marks of distinction won by its graduates in the enterprises of the world.

MOUNT ADAMS INCLINE

OF the six inclined planes that formerly climbed the promontories overlooking the basin of the city, only the Mt. Adams Incline remains in use. The others have vanished, victims of the march of mechanical invention and progress.

Street cars are hauled up the incline by cable, from the tracks below to the tracks on the hilltop.

This view shows the Kentucky cities of Newport and Covington, the Ohio River, two of the bridges and a portion of the older business section of the city.

THE MAJESTIC BEND OF THE OHIO RIVER

"THE French called the Ohio, 'LaBelle Riviere'; even the captious Mrs. Trollope admired its beauty, remarking only that 'were there occasionally a ruined abbey or feudal castle, to mix the romance of real life with that of nature, the Ohio would be perfect.' "

Today we have castle-towered Mt. Adams overlooking the broad expanse of the river, and the many castled hillsides of the Eastern residence sections of the city, where the romance of real life is ever present amid a profusion of the natural beauties of life.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON—"OLD TIPPECANOE"

NINTH President of the United States. He was born at Berkeley, Va. in 1773, and was a son of Benjamin Harrison, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He took part in the Indian Wars, distinguishing himself particularly in the defeat of the Indian tribes at Tippecanoe in 1811.

Cincinnati honors him by this stately equestrian statue, which stands commandingly at the Vine Street entrance of Garfield Place.

His final resting place, befitting the dignity of his mortal existence, occupies a prominent hilltop overlooking the broad expanse of the Ohio River and Kentucky Hills, at North Bend, Ohio, adjoining Cincinnati on the West.

CINCINNATI'S FAMOUS FOUNTAIN SQUARE

KNOWN and renowned throughout the world, Fountain Square is always closely associated with the name of Cincinnati.

This view shows the Tyler Davidson Fountain and the building-walled and tree-lined square in whose association the fountain itself has become inseparable. The fountain was cast in Germany from condemned bronze cannons, and is one of the finest works of its kind in existence. It was presented to the city by Henry Probasco.

Fountain Square is more than a name or a location, it is a tradition closely linked with the progress and growth of the city.

THE L. & N. BRIDGE

GLIMPSED through the trees on the river bank in Kentucky, this bridge presents a picture of rare charm.

Over this span, one of Cincinnati's five "gateways to the South," passes much of the travel and commerce to and from the South.

LUNKEN AIRPORT

CINCINNATI'S Municipal Airport, was dedicated with fitting ceremonies on September 26, 27 and 28, 1930.

This view from the roadway in Alms Park shows the new hangars and concrete runs, recently completed. This airport is the largest municipally owned airport in the world, and one of the best equipped. Its ideal strategical location at the fork of the Ohio and Little Miami Rivers, gives it a most advantageous identification from the air. It stands a memorable tribute to the civic generosity and vision of the people of Cincinnati.

Kellogg Avenue and the Ohio River may be seen in the distance.

"Dedicated to the youth of Mariemont, in memory of its founder, my beloved sister Mary Muhlenberg Emery, A. D. 1929."

Isabella F. Hopkins.

ALTHOUGH Mrs. Mary M. Emery gave hundreds of memorials during her long and useful lifetime, neither of these were given in her own name, nor would she consent to the honoring of any other person in her philanthropies than her late husband, Thomas J. Emery.

On November 16, 1929, there was dedicated in Mariemont the first memorial to her own sainted memory when the "Bells of Mariemont" were blessed by her life-long friend, the Right Reverend Boyd Vincent.

The twenty-three bells were cast at Croydon, England, and concerts are given several times weekly by prominent carilloneurs.

READING ROAD TEMPLE, AVONDALE

THE Temple of the K. K. Adath Israel Congregation, located on Reading Road at Lexington Avenue, is now one of the city's finest and newest temples of worship. Its finely proportioned Roman Corinthian columns and its stone masonry combine to make it an imposing feature of Reading Road, which, in the same locality, is indeed a road of temples.

The Avondale Branch of the Cincinnati Public Library is also seen next to the temple.

VINE STREET AND UPTOWN CINCINNATI

THIS view from the tower of the Union Central Building shows Vine Street, with the new Carew Tower, nearing completion, in the foreground.

Many of the newer buildings to be seen are The Enquirer Building, The Provident Bank, The American Building on Central Parkway, The Ohio Mechanics Institute, The new Y. W. C. A., and the Temple Bar Building.

In the distance are to be seen the spires of St. George Church on Calhoun Street and the new Christ Hospital buildings.

THE ISLAND MAID WENDING ITS WAY UPSTREAM

As early as 1811, Zadock Cramer reported the experiments of "a Mr. Rosewalt, a gentlemen of enterprise," with boats, "propelled by the power of steam," and remarked that, "it will be a novel sight, and as pleasing as novel, to see a huge boat working her way up the windings of the Ohio without the appearance of a sail, oar, pole or any manual labor about her—moving within the secrets of her own wonderful mechanism, and propelled by power undiscoverable."

Mr. Cramer's remarks still apply today. The sight remains novel and very pleasing: the sight of the boats steaming up and down the great Ohio.

THE CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY

THE present buildings of the Observatory were built in 1873, on a beautiful tract of land on Mt. Lookout, donated by Mr. John Kilgour.

The original observatory building occupied the brow of Mount Adams and was dedicated in 1843. It was the only one in the world constructed and put into operation by the people, the necessary funds being obtained through the personal efforts of Prof. O. M. Mitchell, from subscriptions by the people—the masses.

Part of the original stones were moved to the new location in Mt. Lookout and now form a part of the present structure. The original telescope costing ten thousand dollars, is housed in the new building as is also a sixteen inch instrument of more modern design.

THE BOATHOUSE AND LAGOON, MARIEMONT

LOCATED in the beautiful Dogwood Park in Mariemont is this picturesque lake with its charmingly rustic boathouse.

Although artificially created, the lake and the surrounding landscape is every bit as natural as though Nature herself created the rough stone steps, carefully placed the shrubbery, and to top off the job, placed the boathouse in its commanding position at the head of the lagoon.

CAREW TOWER

CINCINNATI'S newest temple of business, the Carew Tower, was dedicated on October 30, 1930, being completed in the record time of approximately ten months.

It includes within its walls two large department stores, offices, a hotel, an automatic garage accommodating several hundred cars, an auditorium, two street level arcades and many smaller shops.

Dominating the business section and overlooking Fountain and Government Squares, this structure is indicative of the forward-moving spirit of the new Cincinnati.

SHELTER HOUSE, EDEN PARK

OF charming interest is this Moorish type of shelter located at the bend of the road in that most beautiful of Cincinnati's parks, Eden Park.

The walls of the old reservoir, an integral part of the city's original waterworks system may be seen immediately to the left of the shelter house.

The Cincinnati Art Museum and the Art Academy may be seen atop the hill in the distance.

FAIRMOUNT SCHOOL

CINCINNATI'S public school system is considered one of the finest. Its school buildings combine a beauty of architecture and utility.

The public schools of Cincinnati arose out of a general principle, adopted in the first legislation for the North-Western Territory—

> "Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

The Fairmount school, located in a picturesque hollow below Harrison Avenue, presents a pleasing vista with its vine covered walls and broad steps, and the towering hills surrounding it on all sides.

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TORRENCE ROAD STATION

NESTLING on the hillside above Eastern Avenue and below Torrence Road, is this suburban station of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The cool shadows of its platform canopies, and ivy covered walls and the tree covered hillside, impart a charm seldom associated with a railroad station. From the overhead passage splendid views are to be had of the Ohio River and the Kentucky Hills.

The ivy-framed panel on the wall is the work of Mr. Carl Bitter, renowned sculptor, and was one of a series of eight representing important mid-western cities, that graced the walls of the old Broad Street station at Philadelphia for more than forty years. When that station was destroyed by fire about five years ago this attractive work of art was sent to Cincinnati and placed in its present attractive setting.

It depicts Dennin and Tuttle, those sturdy men who were the first white settlers in this territory, and who discovered most of the river territory, from Pittsburgh on down the Ohio River. They also named the site of the present Cincinnati, "Losantiville," and the struggling village bore that name for several years before it was changed.

CINCINNATI

A TYPE OF CINCINNATI SUBURBAN RESIDENCE

THE English Country House type of dwelling fits admirably into the hilly landscape of Cincinnati, and as a result adaptations of this type predominate in the newer residence sections of the city.

This home, located in Mt. Lookout, is a pleasing example of the type of home of many of the city's business and professional men.

MT. ECHO PARK, PRICE HILL

MT. ECHO PARK occupies a dominant position on the southern brink of Price Hill, one of Cincinnati's seven hills.

The park overlooks the Ohio River to the South and the business section of the city to the East.

This view shows the stone observation point overlooking the waters of the Ohio and the hills and lagoons of Kentucky.

THE SPIRIT OF THE NEW CINCINNATI

THE Spirit of the New Cincinnati is seen rising above and beyond the spirit of the old.

This view from the end of the Broadway Bridge shows to advantage a number of the new buildings. From left to right they are, Chamber of Commerce, Union Central Life Insurance Company, First National Bank, The Union Trust Building seen between the First National Bank and the Union Gas and Electric Building, the Traction Building and the Old Telephone Building.

THE LAKE, BURNET WOODS

CINCINNATI is indeed endowed with an unlimited natural picturesqueness. Its hills, its valleys, its rivers, its parks, all seem blessed by a bountiful Nature. Burnet Woods, a 117 acre reserve, is truly a forest, for there may be found a profusion of trees and shrubbery that require little of the efforts of man to make it one of the most attractive parks in the city, if not in the entire country.

Its lake, lined with overhanging trees and flanked by shaded walks, with its boats and animal life, is a spot frequented by young and old from all parts of the city, as its charm and attractions are irresistible.

THE ELSINORE

THIS landmark in Eden Park, facing Elsinore Place and Gilbert Avenue, is an interesting subject for conjecture.

The tower, part of the original waterworks construction in Eden Park, was built in the year 1883. Since the removal of the waterworks plant from the park, the tower remains as a monument to the achievements of the past.

This view from the hillside of Eden Park shows the traffic of Gilbert Avenue through the archway; also the hilltop homes on Mt. Auburn, in the distance.

WITHROW HIGH SCHOOL

THE clock-tower and the ivy covered walls of the buildings, the attractiveness of its architecture and its natural setting, combine to make this one of the show places of the city. Cincinnatians are justly proud of this school as it is considered one of the country's finest.

> "So teach us to number our days
> that we may apply our hearts unto
> wisdom"

is one of the noble inscriptions at the base of the tower.

The naming of this finest of schools is a fitting tribute by the city, to the courageous, and the visionary work of Dr. John M. Withrow, former head of the board of education.

LOOKING EAST FROM THE UNION CENTRAL TOWER

THE Eastern section of the business area of the city showing the location of the new Masonic Temple in the middle foreground, and the circle in Lytle Park at the extreme right, where is located the world famous Barnard statue of Lincoln.

In the distance in the center of the picture may be seen Mt. Adams with its inclined plane, and its other distinguishing features of unique buildings and hilltop houses of worship. To the left are the Art Museum and the Art Academy in Eden Park and the old Water Tower. In the distance beyond is the spire of St. Francis de Sales.

ENTRANCE TO FLEISCHMANN GARDENS, AVONDALE

THIS four and a half acre park, located at the corner of Forest and Washington Avenues in Avondale, is one of the city's newest and most beautiful parks.

Formerly the site of the homestead of Charles and Henriette Fleischmann, it was dedicated in their memory by their children and grand children to the people of Cincinnati.

This deed of gift together with an endowment fund sufficient to maintain Fleischmann Gardens in perpetuity was accepted by the City of Cincinnati on July 3, 1925.

A VISTA ON VICTORY PARKWAY

THE winding expanse of the Eastern spur of Victory Parkway connecting Madison Road with the main drive of the Parkway, is the newest extension of Cincinnati's vast boulevard system, which will eventually connect all sections of the city.

The Church of St. Francis de Sales occupies the dominant corner of Woodburn Avenue, Madison Road and Victory Parkway and may be seen for squares in all directions.

AL' ENFANCE

"TO CHILDHOOD." What more fitting for such a spot of beauty as Dale Park, Mariemont, than this emblematic statue, glorifying childhood.

This statue, the central figure of the Dale Park Garden, was made in France from the same limestone from which so many of the glorious French monuments and cathedrals have been constructed.

Several years ago the attention of Mrs. Emery was called to the existence of this beautiful group, which was exhibited at the Paris Salon. She showed a decided interest in this work of art and ordered the statue made and erected in Dale Park as her gift to the children of Mariemont.

> "And the children? Do you feel safer about them? Are their faces a bit ruddier, are their legs a little sturdier? Do they play and laugh a lot louder in Mariemont?"
>
> "Then I am content."
>
> Mary M. Emery.

THE NEW SKYLINE OF THE CITY

THIS view from the grounds of Rookwood Pottery shows the new skyline of the business section.

"Mrs. Trollope toured through the valley, her small mind dazed by the exuberance she saw about her. Stopping at Cincinnati, she reported that, 'it was by no means a city of striking appearance; it wants domes, towers and steeples'." She did not appreciate the fact that the city at that time (about 1830) had grown almost overnight to a population of about 20,000.

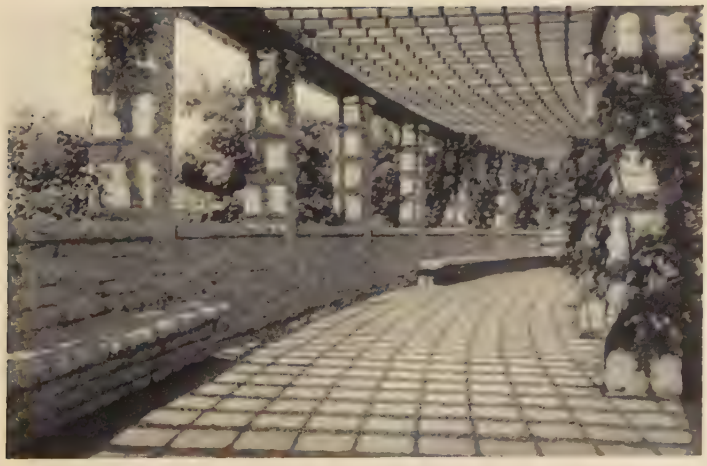
Domes, towers and steeples! If Mrs. Trollope were alive today and could revisit Cincinnati, we wonder what her comments would be. Hypercritical always, no doubt, but surely her impressions different.

THE LYCH-GATE

THIS careful reproduction of an old English Lych-Gate graces the grounds of the Mariemont Memorial Church, facing Wooster Pike, bringing a symbol of the quaint olden customs of England to our modern and more blustering times.

PERGOLA ON THE CONCOURSE

The limestone pergola on the concourse, sunlit and clad in a profusion of vines, itself presents a scene of peculiar beauty, as does the view of the Little Miami River and Valley that spreads out below it.



THE SENTINEL OF RACE STREET

STANDING guard over the destinies of Race Street, the Phillipus Evangelical Church, at the base of Clifton Hill, admonishes the populace to "forever look upward" by its heavenward pointing hand.

The skyline is punctuated by many other spires and the steel skeleton of the new Carew Tower in the distance.

ENTRANCE, GRUEN WATCHMAKERS GUILD, TIME HILL

THIS view indicates the picturesque simplicity, yet uniquely different style of architecture of the Gruen factory, which makes Time Hill one of the interesting landmarks of the city.

The harmonious landscaping of the grounds fairly beckons, almost leads one to the entrance door. From the willow trees to the fish pond on the lawn, from the architectural beauty of the buildings to the intriguing and descriptive name, the effect is quaintness, and again beauty.

Nowhere else in America has industry and beauty been so successfully combined.

GEORGE GREY BARNARD'S LINCOLN

THIS much discussed, heroic and life-like statue of the great Emancipator, occupying a commanding position in Lytle Park at the head of Fourth Street, facing the setting sun, was unveiled in 1917.

Just as his humanitarian acts during his lifetime will live through the ages, so will his spirit in bronze perpetuate his noble inspiration, "that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

DOWN ALONG THE RIVER

SILHOUETTED against the glow of sunset the coal barges moored to the shore along the river create a scene of unusual contrast.

The winches, the derricks, the creaking timbers, are quiet after the day's work; a lone bather is leaving the water, and the restful peace of eventide creeps along the river.

Particularly entrancing are the scenes along the river at sundown, constantly varying at every turn as well as with the moods of man.

THE EDEN PARK WATER TOWER

OCCUPYING a commanding spot on the brow of the highest hilltop in Eden Park, the old water tower may be seen for a distance of many miles.

Built in 1893 it still remains one of the outstanding landmarks of Cincinnati. It appears most attractive when seen from the slopes of the park across the reservoirs, or from the driveway across the bridge that spans the main road thru the park. Its red brick masonry and bronze coated pinnacle is attractively set amidst a bower of trees from whatever point it is viewed.

CINCINNATI'S NEW SKYLINE

THIS view is shown, at the risk of repetition, as it admirably shows the marked strides made in industrial building during the past few years.

The buildings to be seen are, from left to right, Chamber of Commerce, Union Central Building, Carew Tower, Union Trust Company, First National Bank, Traction Building, Union Gas and Electric Company, Old Telephone Building, the spire-cornered tower of Christ Church, the Broadway Hotel, and the Old Spencer House on the waterfront at the extreme right.

The palatial steamer Cincinnati lays at the wharf and the Island Maid pauses in midstream before turning in to the wharf.

A BEAUTIFUL VISTA IN MARIEMONT

DALE PARK in Mariemont is a spot of unsurpassed natural beauty. A profusion of lofty trees abound, intermingled with various sorts of shrubbery.

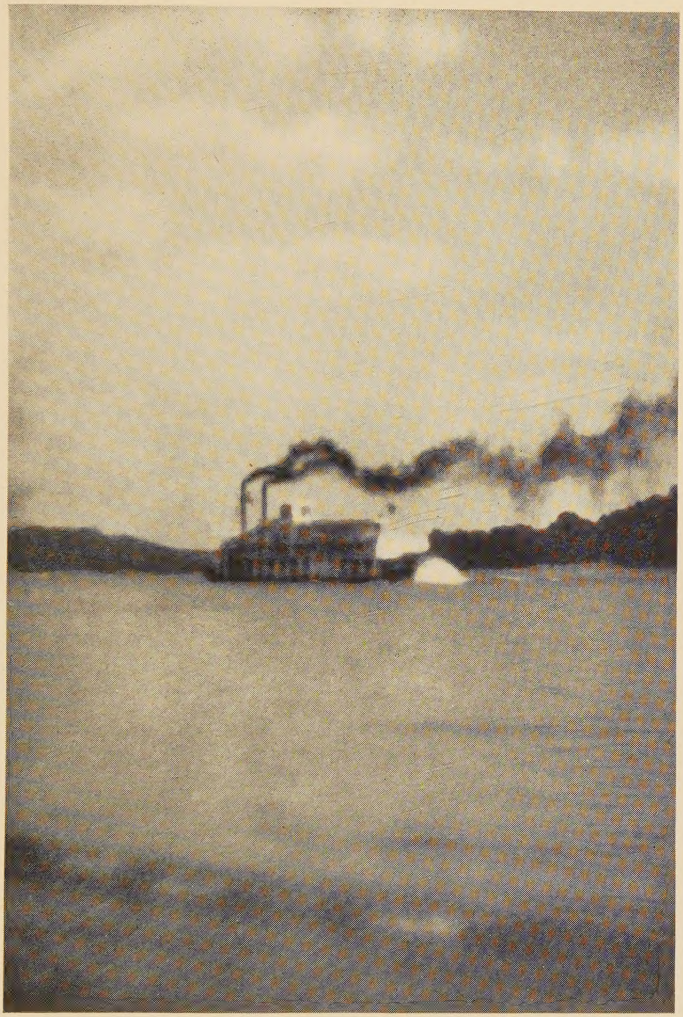
The Recreation Building or Community Center of the town, in the distance, offers recreational facilities of every description to the residents of this delightful suburban community.

LAST RACE OF THE BETSY ANN

STEAMBOAT racing on the Ohio River was revived in 1927 and for three years the Betsy Ann, proud stern-wheeler of a staunch line of river boats, challenged the best boats on the river.

Despite the fact that she lost all three races, only by a very small margin, to newer boats, to her goes the credit for reviving that old interest and enthusiasm that made the old river days a succession of pageant and moving panorama of glamorous events.

The golden antlers, once won by this trim vessel, for her prowess upon the inland waters, now belong to the new generation of river steamers, which will no doubt bask in the light of public interest for many months to come, as a result of the last race of the Betsy Ann.



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